IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 has been amended as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A medical system architecture comprising:

a plurality of modalities for acquiring medical examination images;

a plurality of computer workstations respectively allocated to the modalities for processing the respective medical examination images therefrom, each processing of a medical examination image being a complete task performed entirely at one of said computer workstations and involving modifying a content of the medical examination image being processed;

a transmission device connected to said computer workstations for transmitting said medical examination images to a location remote from said computer workstations;

a memory connected to said transmission device for storing said medical examination images;

a further computer workstation connected to said transmission device for post-processing said medical examination images, each post-processing of a medical examination image being a complete task performed entirely at said further computer workstation and involving modifying a content of the medical examination image being post-processed;

each of said computer workstations and said further computer workstation containing a work list management unit in which a work list, listing tasks to be performed by that workstation, is stored and which has a

detector that determines, and emits a detector output signal representing, usage of that computer workstation dependent on the stored work list; and

~~at least~~ one of said computer workstations or said further computer workstation comprising a task generator in communication via said transmission device with the respective work list management units of all of the computer workstations and the further computer workstation to receive the respective detector output signals therefrom, said task generator including an evaluation device that manages the usage of said computer ~~workstation~~ workstations and said further computer workstation to process and post-process said medical examination images dependent on the respective detector output signals received from said computer workstations and said further computer workstation.

2. (Previously Presented) A medical system architecture as claimed in claim 1 wherein each detector comprises a threshold detector that compares a number of still pending tasks in said work list to a work load threshold value entered into the detector, and which generates a request signal, as said detector output signal, and transmits said request signal ~~it~~ to said task generator when said number of still pending tasks falls below said work load threshold value.

3. (Previously Presented) A medical system architecture as claimed in claim 1 wherein each detector comprises a threshold comparator that compares a number of still pending tasks in said work list to a saturation threshold value entered into the detector, and which generates a saturation signal, as said detector output

signal, and transmits said saturation signal to said task generator when said number of still pending tasks exceeds said saturation threshold value.

4. (Original) A medical system architecture as claimed in claim 1 wherein each of said computer workstation contains a task generator.

5. (Previously Presented) A medical system architecture as claimed in claim 1 further comprising a server with a routing device connected to said task generator, said server forwarding said medical examination images to respective workstations among said computer workstations and said further computer workstation dependent on the respective signals received by said task generator.

Claim 6 has been amended as follows:

6. (Currently amended) A method for controlling usage of a computer workstation, comprising the steps of:

at a task generator, electronically processing a work load of pending tasks ~~comprising~~ involving processing of medical examination images, each of which is to be entirely processed as a task at a computer workstation, remote from said task generator, dependent on an electronic work list of said pending tasks;

if a number of said pending tasks in said work list at said computer workstation falls below a work load threshold value, communicating a request signal to [[a]] said task generator ~~located remote~~ from said computer workstation;

if a number of said pending tasks in said work list said computer workstation exceeds a saturation threshold, communicating a saturation signal to said task generator from said computer workstation;

when said task generator receives said request signal, transmitting further medical examination images to be processed to said computer workstation; and

when said task generator receives said saturation signal, inhibiting transmission of further medical examination images to be processed to said computer workstation.